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State Overview

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 4.8 PERCENT IN JUNE

Labor Force details for the state, labor market areas, counties, and cities can be found on State Table 1 on pg. 3.

Unemployment changed little in June as the jobless rate remained unchanged from May at 4.8, seasonally adjusted. The June 2000 unemployment rate was also 4.8 percent. For the first six months of 2001, Idaho's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has averaged 4.7 percent, compared to 4.9 percent for the first six months of 2000. The first three months of 2001 reported unemployment rates of 4.5 percent. However, the unemployment rate has increased since the announced layoff of several thousand workers beginning in March. Idaho's hot economy is beginning to slow down, especially month-to-month.

The national unemployment rate in June was 4.5 percent, up one-tenth of a percentage point from May. For the first six months of 2001, the nation's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has averaged 4.4 percent, compared to 4.0 percent for the first six months of 2000. The increase in the unemployment rate is indicative of the slowing of the national economy, particularly in the high tech sectors.

Idaho's seasonally adjusted *Civilian Labor Force* increased by 600 in June to 680,500 persons. The number of people working in June totaled 647,800, which was 700 more than May and 23,400 more than reported in June 2000. The number of people unemployed in June dropped slightly from 32,800 in May to 32,700. However, there were 900 more people unemployed in June 2001 year-over-year. The changes in the seasonally adjusted employment and unemployment data followed normal seasonal patterns and provided no surprises. In fact, the unemployment rate for the past three years has been unchanged between May and June.

AREA LABOR FORCE HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment rates are calculated each month for eight Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Idaho. Idaho-Lewis LMA reported the highest unemployment rate at 9.7 percent, down four-tenths of a percentage point from May. The Idaho-Lewis LMA has had the highest unemployment rate for an Idaho labor market area since January 1998 except for May 1999. In May 1999, the Idaho-Lewis LMA and the Panhandle LMA both had an unemployment rate of 9.4 percent.

The Bonneville LMA reported the lowest unemployment rate at 3.2 percent—up one-tenth of a percentage point—marking the third month that the Bonneville LMA has had the lowest unemployment rate. Prior to March 2001, the Boise Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the lowest unemployment rate. However, the large number of layoffs in the “high-tech” sector has resulted in the Boise MSA's unemployment rate increase. Since January 1998 the Boise MSA has had the lowest unemployment rate the majority of the time. However, The Bonneville and Seaport LMAs have experienced the lowest rate a few times. These three labor market areas typically report the lowest unemployment rates.

The Panhandle LMA reported an unemployment rate of 8.4 percent, the largest decrease from May of all the LMAs, at six-tenths of a percentage point. The Pocatello MSA reported an unemployment rate of 4.4 percent, the largest increase from May at five-tenths of a percentage point.

COUNTY LABOR FORCE

Of the 44 counties in the state, three experienced double-digit unemployment rates in June—Clearwater at 14.1 percent, Adams at 13.4 percent, and Shoshone at 12.1 percent. These three counties rely heavily on natural resource-based industries.

Four counties reported an unemployment rate below 3.0 percent in June—Bonneville at 2.9 percent, Blaine at 2.8 percent, Teton at 1.9 percent, and Madison at 1.8 percent. Madison County has had the lowest unemployment rate since November 1998.

Ten additional counties reported unemployment rates below 4.0 percent—Bingham, Nez Perce, Butte, Jerome, Lincoln, Oneida, Ada, Gooding, Jefferson, and Clark.

CITY LABOR FORCE

Two of the seven major cities in Idaho reported a significant change in the unemployment rate from May. Lewiston dropped five-tenths of a percentage point from May to 3.3 percent. Pocatello increased six-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent. The unemployment rate in Pocatello as well as the Pocatello MSA is beginning to reflect the lay-offs announced at Astaris and American Microsystems in early June.

Labor force details for the state, labor market areas, counties, and cities can be found in State Table 1 on page 3.

AGRICULTURE

Farm sector employment in Idaho increased 2.6 percent in June to 36,510. This was the smallest June to July employment increase since 1994. Only the number of *Hired Workers* increased, up 3.6 percent.

Farm activity in June included first alfalfa and hay cutting; asparagus harvesting; cherry picking; sugar beets, potatoes, and onions weeding; and irrigating. Northeast Idaho experienced several cold nights. One night brought several inches of snow to the northern areas, and humidity from the previous day turned to ice in the lower areas. Although the days warmed up, the earlier cold weather will delay the potato harvest about one week.

Water continues to be a concern as water levels in the state's reservoirs are decreasing. Drought emergency declaration orders have been given for 30 counties. In June, 12 counties were designated drought emergency areas: Oneida, Gooding, Boise, Madison, Teton, Bannock, Owyhee, Cassia, Lemhi, Bear Lake, Payette, and Adams. Washington and Twin Falls counties were designated in July. The thirtieth county, Jerome, was designated on August 6.

NONFARM HIGHLIGHTS

The predominant trend since 1986 shows the number of *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* peaking in June, dropping in July, and then increasing on a monthly basis through September.

June is a great month for employment opportunities. The weather is perfect for outdoor work such as construction, landscaping, gardening, and recreation. Government agencies hire for the fire season as well as for grounds-keeping and summer recreational programs. Lodging facilities, amusement parks, eating establishments, and tourist shops are geared up for the summer season. School is out and summer vacations have begun in earnest. Support activity for the agriculture sector also increases as the food processing plants and fresh pack warehouses empty their storage facilities to make room for the 2001 crop.

COMPARISON TO LAST MONTH

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs in June increased 1.4 percent, or 7,900 new jobs, to 576,300. Services and Construction experienced the largest growth from May to June, with 3,500 and 2,200 new jobs respectively. *Services* accounted for the largest growth from last year with 5,300 new jobs. *Service-Producing Industries* accounted for 58 percent of the job growth from May and 132 percent from

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June 2000. (For more information, see State Table 2 on pg. 5).

Goods-Producing Industries reported 116,700 jobs in June, up from 113,400 in May but down from 119,200 in June 2000. *Construction* accounted for two-thirds of the growth as 2,200 new jobs brought employment to 38,200. One-half of the new jobs were in *Special Trade Contractors* with the other 1,100 new jobs evenly divided between *Building and Heavy Construction*.

The next largest job growth was in *Lumber & Wood Products* as 600 new logging jobs were added in June. The good weather allowed more logging activity, resulting in higher employment and full log yards at the sawmills. However, job losses of 100 in *Sawmills & Planing Mills* and 200 in *Other Lumber & Wood Products* reduced job growth in *Lumber & Wood Products* to only 300. The Boise Cascade sawmills in Emmett and Cascade closed on May 31.

Employment in Idaho's "electronics" industry, *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment*, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 35, and *Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment and Components except Computer Equipment*, SIC 36, was 25,600 in June. Even with more than 2,400 announced layoffs since January, employment in these industries remains at an all time high for June. The *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment* sector reported its lowest level of employment in five years in May with a slight rebound of 100 jobs in June to 9,700. The number of jobs in the *Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment and Components except Computer Equipment* continued to increase in June. This sector is dominated by Micron Technology who, typically, has expanded its workforce. However, recently announced layoffs at Extended Systems, American Microsystems, and MCMS will have a negative impact on the number of jobs in this sector.

The addition of 200 *Food Processing* jobs in June brought employment to 16,900. Growth in the *Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Fruits, Vegetables, & Food Specialties* accounted for the growth. The pea harvest in the Lewiston area added most of the new jobs with 100. Employment in *Food Processing* will increase in July as the pea processing continues and the corn harvest begins. Employment will continue to grow through September with potato, dry bean, sugar beet, and fruit harvests.

Nearly 100 workers have been laid off by Astaris in Southeastern Idaho. Astaris is a chemical processing plant that produces phosphate fertilizer. The company had to reduce production because of the power shortage.

Service-Producing Industries accounted for 459,600 jobs in June, up from 455,000 in May and 449,400 in June 2000. Job increases totaling 5,000 in *Retail Trade* and *Services* more than offset the 2,500 job loss in *State & Local Government Education*.

The *Transportation* sector had its ups and downs in June. The number of school bus drivers employed by private employers decreased over 100 as most schools closed in early June for the summer. On the other hand, more than 200 jobs were added in *Motor Freight Transportation & Warehousing* with an increased demand for farm-to-market/processing.

State Table 1: June 2001 Labor Force (preliminary)

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Unemp.	% Unemp.	Total Emp.
Seaport LMA	34,900	1,400	4.0	33,500
Nez Perce County	23,290	880	3.8	22,410
Asotin County, WA	11,610	520	4.4	11,090
Boise City MSA	251,800	9,790	3.9	242,010
Ada County	182,110	6,270	3.4	175,840
Canyon County	69,690	3,520	5.0	66,170
Pocatello City MSA*	40,320	1,760	4.4	38,560
Bonneville LMA	83,470	2,710	3.2	80,760
Bingham County	22,730	880	3.9	21,850
Bonneville County	48,390	1,420	2.9	46,970
Butte County	1,670	65	3.8	1,605
Jefferson County	10,670	350	3.3	10,320
Cassia-Minidoka LMA	18,600	920	4.9	17,680
Cassia County	9,200	400	4.3	8,800
Minidoka County	9,390	520	5.5	8,870
Idaho-Lewis LMA	7,900	760	9.7	7,140
Idaho County	6,320	630	9.9	5,690
Lewis County	1,600	140	8.7	1,460
Panhandle LMA	90,730	7,630	8.4	83,100
Benewah County	4,410	425	9.6	3,985
Bonner County	17,560	1,350	7.7	16,210
Boundary County	4,480	300	6.7	4,180
Kootenai County	57,500	4,730	8.2	52,770
Shoshone County	6,780	820	12.1	5,960
Magic Valley LMA	46,630	1,830	3.9	44,800
Gooding County	6,480	220	3.4	6,260
Jerome County	8,710	320	3.7	8,390
Twin Falls County	31,440	1,290	4.1	30,150
Adams County	1,660	220	13.4	1,440
Bear Lake County	2,700	145	5.4	2,555
Blaine County	11,910	330	2.8	11,580
Boise County	2,540	135	5.3	2,405
Camas County	355	20	4.8	335
Caribou County	3,040	200	6.5	2,840
Clark County	530	15	3.0	515
Clearwater County	4,000	560	14.1	3,440
Custer County	2,200	140	6.4	2,060
Elmore County	9,330	570	6.1	8,760
Franklin County	4,800	220	4.5	4,580
Fremont County	4,640	270	5.9	4,370
Gem County	6,550	560	8.5	5,990
Latah County	14,840	600	4.1	14,240
Lemhi County	3,480	210	6.0	3,270
Lincoln County	1,780	65	3.7	1,715
Madison County	11,690	210	1.8	11,480
Oneida County	1,780	60	3.4	1,720
Owyhee County	4,240	200	4.7	4,040
Payette County	9,880	660	6.7	9,220
Power County	3,480	260	7.4	3,220
Teton County	3,425	65	1.9	3,360
Valley County	4,350	330	7.5	4,020
Washington County	4,510	360	8.0	4,150
State of Idaho	680,460	32,700	4.8	647,760
Idaho Cities				
Boise	114,980	3,950	3.4	111,030
Coeur d'Alene	20,210	1,280	6.3	18,930
Idaho Falls	29,770	920	3.1	28,850
Lewiston	19,720	650	3.3	19,070
Nampa	21,260	1,170	5.5	20,090
Pocatello	28,730	1,230	4.3	27,500
Twin Falls	16,340	710	4.3	15,630

* Pocatello MSA includes all of Bannock County.

There were 111,800 jobs in *Retail Trade* during June, up 1,500 from May. The restaurant sector showed the highest increase of jobs with 700, bringing its total to 39,500 in June. Restaurant employment peaks in the summer months as additional workers are hired to meet the increased demands of tourists. In addition, the local population supports the restaurant industry more in the summer months.

Major retailers continue to expand throughout Idaho. Some retail outlets that have expanded in Idaho so far this year or in the near future include Home Depot, Ross Dress For Less, Target, and Wal-Mart. Generally, with the opening of a major retail outlet, applicants exceed the number of job openings. The irony is that in an economy with an unemployment rate at 5.0 percent, which is considered full-employment, a business can recruit more people than they can actually hire. Areas with low unemployment rates can continue to generate job opportunities.

Job increases of 3,500 (2.4 percent) occurred in June in the *Services* industry, accounting for the largest growth in the *Service-Producing Industries*. Employment increased by 900 (11.1 percent) in *Hotel & Other Lodging Places* to 9,500 as tourists began to visit Idaho. Golf courses, amusement parks, and other recreational facilities added another 800 jobs. The demand for temporary workers increased in June, resulting in 300 additional jobs in the *Personnel Supply Services* sector of *Business Services*. Agricultural services businesses also noted an employment growth of 200 jobs as they began supplying seeds, plants, shrubs, and fertilizer to yard and garden enthusiasts. There were no major job losses in the various *Services* industries during June.

The increase of 1,000 new jobs in *State & Local Government Administration* reflects seasonal growth in these two sectors. State, county, and city governments hired temporary help to run summer recreation programs and maintain parks. *Federal Government* added 700 new jobs in the Forest Service and Bureau of Reclamation, including the Bureau of Land Management, to cover a seasonal increase in the maintenance of recreational facilities and in preparation for an anticipated fire season. As colleges and universities completed their spring semester, student workers graduated or returned home for the summer. The loss of 1,700 workers brought employment in *State Government Education* to 12,800—an 11.7 percent decrease. *Local Government Education* also experienced a loss of 800 jobs—a 2.0 percent decrease—as most elementary and secondary schools closed for summer vacations.

COMPARISON TO LAST YEAR

Between June 2000 and June 2001, there were 7,700 new jobs added. The growth rate of 1.4 percent in *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* was the smallest year-over-year percentage change experienced this year and the smallest since November 1987. The year-over-year growth has decreased steadily from a high of 3.3 percent in January. This continues to emphasize that Idaho's economy and employment growth is slowing.

Services led the way in growth over the year with a 3.6 percent growth, translating to 5,300 new jobs. The *Health*

Services sector was responsible for 42 percent of the growth with the addition of 2,200 new jobs. One-half of those new jobs occurred in the *Hospital* sector as several hospitals have expanded services and facilities. *Nursing & Personal Care Facilities* have added 400 new jobs with the 700 jobs being distributed throughout the remaining sectors. *Business Services* also has been a major contributor to the year-to-date growth with 1,100 new jobs, up 3.8 percent. The new jobs were not only in temporary employment agencies but also in call centers. Call centers have become a new player in Idaho's nonfarm industry employment. Because of the make-up of the industry, employment is difficult to track. The call centers are involved in catalog sales, help lines, telemarketing, customer services, and market research. They may handle inbound or outbound calls. Currently there are over 60 establishments that employ approximately 10,500 workers in 25 different industry classifications.

The year-to-date growth in *Retail Trade* includes 2,300 new jobs. The largest contributor to the growth was *General Merchandise Stores* with 2,000 new jobs. This growth is primarily a result of the expansion of Wal-Mart across the state. In August 2000, four super stores opened. Other "box stores" have expanded their operations in Idaho including Target, Fred Meyer, and Ross Dress For Less.

Despite recent layoffs in the "electronics" industry, *Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment and Components except Computer Equipment*, reports a year-to-date increase of 1,800 new jobs. This is in contrast to the other half of the "electronics" industry, *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment*, which reported a job loss of 800 from June 2000.

The *Lumber & Wood Products* industry has experienced the largest job loss since June 2000 with 2,100. The loss of 800 jobs in *Sawmills & Planing Mills* accounts for over one-third of the losses. The closure of Potlatch's Jaypee mill and the two Boise Cascade sawmills eliminated nearly 600 jobs. When sawmills close, the need for loggers also diminishes, which has resulted in 200 fewer jobs this June. The market for modular homes has also taken a major hit in the last 12 months resulting in manufacturers reducing their employment by 400 jobs. The remaining 700 jobs were in other areas of the lumber industry.

The number of *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* has continued to increase each month for the first six months of 2000 with 4.9 percent growth since January. This is the slowest growth rate since 1986 when the job growth was 4.1 percent between January and June. Job growth is expected to continue but at a very slow rate—less than 2 percent per month. Peak employment for 2001 should be reached in September if the trend for prior years continues.

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State Table 2: Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

BY PLACE OF WORK	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	576,300	568,400	568,600	1.4	1.4
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	116,700	113,400	119,200	2.9	-2.1
Mining	2,500	2,400	2,600	4.2	-3.8
Metal Mining	900	1,000	1,300	-10.0	-30.8
Construction	38,200	36,000	38,200	6.1	0.0
Manufacturing	76,000	75,000	78,400	1.3	-3.1
Durable Goods	47,100	46,400	48,700	1.5	-3.3
Lumber & Wood Products	11,000	10,700	13,100	2.8	-16.0
Logging	2,200	1,600	2,400	37.5	-8.3
Sawmills & Planing Mills	4,200	4,300	5,000	-2.3	-16.0
Wood Buildings & Mobile Homes	1,000	1,000	1,400	0.0	-28.6
Other Lumber & Wood Products	3,600	3,800	4,300	-5.3	-16.3
Stone, Clay, Glass & Concrete Products	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0	0.0
Fabricated Metal Products, exc. Machinery & Transportation Equip.	2,900	3,000	3,000	-3.3	-3.3
Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment	9,700	9,600	10,500	1.0	-7.6
Electronic & Other Electrical Equip. & Components, Exc., Computer	15,900	15,600	14,100	1.9	12.8
Transportation Equipment	2,400	2,300	2,600	4.3	-7.7
Other Durable Goods	3,700	3,700	3,900	0.0	-5.1
Nondurable Goods	28,700	28,400	29,100	1.1	-1.4
Food Processing	16,900	16,700	17,400	1.2	-2.9
Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Fruits, Vegetables & Food Specialties	9,500	9,300	10,100	2.2	-5.9
Paper Products	2,100	2,100	2,300	0.0	-8.7
Printing, Publishing & Allied Products	5,500	5,500	5,400	0.0	1.9
Chemicals & Allied Products	2,300	2,300	2,400	0.0	-4.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1,900	1,800	1,600	5.6	18.8
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	459,600	455,000	449,400	1.0	2.3
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	28,500	28,100	28,200	1.4	1.1
Transportation	17,400	17,200	17,500	1.2	-0.6
Railroad	1,400	1,400	1,500	0.0	-6.7
Motor Freight Transportation & Warehousing	10,100	9,900	10,400	2.0	-2.9
Communications	7,100	7,000	6,600	1.4	7.6
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	4,000	3,900	4,100	2.6	-2.4
Trade	145,200	143,800	142,700	1.0	1.8
Wholesale Trade	33,400	33,500	33,200	-0.3	0.6
Durable Goods	15,700	15,800	15,600	-0.6	0.6
Nondurable Goods	17,700	17,700	17,600	0.0	0.6
Retail Trade	111,800	110,300	109,500	1.4	2.1
Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply & Manuf. Home Dealers	6,800	6,700	7,100	1.5	-4.2
General Merchandise Stores	13,700	13,500	11,700	1.5	17.1
Food Stores	20,100	19,900	20,000	1.0	0.5
Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Service Stations	12,300	12,100	12,300	1.7	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	39,500	38,800	38,700	1.8	2.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	23,800	23,700	23,700	0.4	0.4
Banking	7,200	7,300	7,200	-1.4	0.0
Services	150,700	147,200	145,400	2.4	3.6
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	9,000	8,100	9,100	11.1	-1.1
Personal Services	4,400	4,400	4,300	0.0	2.3
Business Services	30,400	29,900	29,300	1.7	3.8
Amusement and Recreation Services	7,600	6,800	7,500	11.8	1.3
Health Services	38,000	37,600	35,800	1.1	6.1
Hospitals	12,700	12,400	11,600	2.4	9.5
Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management, & Related Services	18,500	18,300	18,000	1.1	2.8
Government	111,400	112,200	109,400	-0.7	1.8
Federal Government	13,800	13,100	15,300	5.3	-9.8
State & Local Government	97,600	99,100	94,100	-1.5	3.7
State Government	28,000	29,400	26,800	-4.8	4.5
Education	12,800	14,500	11,600	-11.7	10.3
Administration	15,200	14,900	15,200	2.0	0.0
Local Government	69,600	69,700	67,300	-0.1	3.4
Education	39,500	40,300	37,400	-2.0	5.6
Administration	30,100	29,400	29,900	2.4	0.7

* Preliminary Estimate

** Estimates include all full or part time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay in the following industry groups during the pay period ending nearest the 12th of the month.

DATA PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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State Table 3: Economic Indicators

State Table C: Economic Indicators

	June 2001	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From					
				Last Month	Last Year				
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾									
Seasonally Adjusted									
Civilian Labor Force	680,500	679,900	656,200	0.1	3.7				
Unemployment	32,700	32,800	31,800	-0.3	2.8				
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	4.8	4.8	4.8						
Total Employment	647,800	647,100	624,400	0.1	3.7				
Unadjusted									
Civilian Labor Force	690,300	680,200	666,100	1.5	3.6				
Unemployment	29,700	31,200	28,800	-4.8	3.1				
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	4.6	4.3						
Total Employment	660,600	649,000	637,300	1.8	3.7				
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁽²⁾	4.5	4.4	4.0						
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ⁽²⁾									
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	174.6	174.4	169.2	0.1	3.2				
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	178.0	177.7	172.4	0.2	3.2				
AGRICULTURE									
Agriculture Employment	36,510	35,570	39,490	2.6	-7.5				
Operators	9,010	9,010	9,010	0.0	0.0				
Unpaid Family	610	610	650	0.0	-6.2				
Hired Workers	26,890	25,950	29,820	3.6	-9.8				
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE									
Claims Activities									
Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	7,192	8,460	6,519	-15.0	10.3				
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	51,509	59,029	35,632	-12.7	44.6				
Benefit Payment Activities⁽⁵⁾									
Weeks Compensated	42,102	59,846	30,092	-29.6	39.9				
Total Benefit \$ Paid	8,703,956	12,617,804	5,758,822	-31.0	51.1				
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$206.73	\$210.84	\$191.37	-1.9	8.0				
Covered Employers	40,055	39,980	38,529	0.2	4.0				
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$123,650,064	\$120,704,930	\$103,241,715	2.4	19.8				
(1) Preliminary Estimate									
(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics									
(3) Includes all entitlements/programs on Intrastate and Interstate Agent, New, and Additional Claims									
(4) Includes all entitlements/programs, Intrastate and Interstate Agent									
(5) Includes all entitlements/programs, Total Liable Activities									
HOURS AND EARNINGS									
	Average Weekly Earnings*			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	June 2001	May 2001	June 2000	June 2001	May 2001	June 2000	June 2001	May 2001	June 2000
Mining	\$615.67	\$609.56	\$616.07	38.6	38.9	43.6	\$15.95	\$15.67	\$14.13
Construction	\$668.75	\$655.38	\$581.02	39.2	39.6	38.2	\$17.06	\$16.55	\$15.21
Total Manufacturing	\$568.88	\$567.75	\$555.36	37.5	37.5	39.0	\$15.17	\$15.14	\$14.24
Lumber & Wood Products	\$576.30	\$528.17	\$504.62	38.6	36.3	38.2	\$14.93	\$14.55	\$13.21
Food & Kindred Products	\$441.84	\$465.71	\$449.91	37.7	39.4	39.5	\$11.72	\$11.82	\$11.39
Communications	\$702.29	\$676.66	\$693.47	40.2	38.6	41.7	\$17.47	\$17.53	\$16.63
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	\$827.13	\$841.02	\$900.77	39.5	39.3	41.0	\$20.94	\$21.40	\$21.97
Trade	\$329.06	\$329.18	\$309.13	30.3	30.2	30.1	\$10.86	\$10.90	\$10.27
Wholesale Trade	\$511.71	\$521.21	\$512.33	37.0	38.1	36.7	\$13.83	\$13.68	\$13.96
Retail Trade	\$277.75	\$274.54	\$252.15	28.4	27.9	28.3	\$9.78	\$9.84	\$8.91
DATA PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS									
* These average earnings are computed on a gross basis and reflect changes in premium pay for overtime and late shift work as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive wage.									



PANHANDLE

BENEWAH, BONNER, BOUNDARY, KOOTENAI, & SHOSHONE COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

The slowdown in the U.S. economy has significantly reduced job growth in the Idaho Panhandle for the first time in 15 years. The Panhandle's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June was 8.4 percent, up five-tenths of a percentage point from June 2000, and *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* fell slightly below the year-ago level. See Panhandle Table 1 for details.

Mining and Manufacturing suffered the greatest job losses. Low prices for silver and lead forced the closure of the 120-year-old Sunshine Mine near Kellogg in February, and contributed to job reductions at other Panhandle mining companies. The net result was the loss of 230 *Mining* jobs. Since May, lumber from Canada has been flooding the U.S. market, and lumber prices have been falling. Consequently, several lumber mills and logging operations have cut jobs or hours. This round of cuts follows a devastating round of job cuts and temporary mill shutdowns that began in May 2000 and extended into the fall. Other Panhandle manufacturers—especially electronics, furniture, and other durable-goods producers—began cutting jobs in late fall, when the climate for U.S. manufacturing began to deteriorate. The job cuts offset all the job gains made in the summer of 2000. So, by June 2001, *All Other Manufacturing* employed 30 fewer people than in June 2000.

The U.S. economic slowdown also slowed job growth in *Service-Producing Industries*. The slowdown forced the Coldwater Creek mail-order catalog company to eliminate positions at its distribution center in Sandpoint and at its call center in Coeur d'Alene. Retail stores in Panhandle communities that rely on timber and mining also reduced employment. *Retail Trade*, therefore, employed 140 fewer people in June 2001 than in June 2000. The

Panhandle Table 1: Labor Force & Employment

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	90,730	90,790	88,040	-0.1	3.1
Unemployed	7,630	8,160	6,960	-6.5	9.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.4	9.0	7.9		
Total Employment	83,100	82,630	81,080	0.6	2.5
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	91,840	90,560	89,170	1.4	3.0
Unemployed	6,360	7,780	5,740	-18.3	10.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.9	8.6	6.4		
Total Employment	85,480	82,780	83,430	3.3	2.5
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	68,840	66,930	69,010	2.9	-0.2
Goods-Producing Industries	14,470	13,950	15,310	3.7	-5.5
Mining	790	800	1,020	-1.3	-22.5
Construction	5,080	4,900	5,190	3.7	-2.1
Manufacturing	8,600	8,250	9,100	4.2	-5.5
Lumber & Wood Products	4,030	3,660	4,500	10.1	-10.4
All Other Manufacturing	4,570	4,590	4,600	-0.4	-0.7
Service-Producing Industries	54,370	52,980	53,700	2.6	1.2
Transportation	1,510	1,440	1,570	4.9	-3.8
Communication & Utilities	1,080	1,050	1,050	2.9	2.9
Wholesale Trade	2,330	2,300	2,350	1.3	-0.9
Retail Trade	15,490	14,990	15,630	3.3	-0.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	2,550	2,510	2,470	1.6	3.2
Service	17,800	17,180	17,330	3.6	2.7
Government Administration	8,410	8,000	8,110	5.1	3.7
Government Education	5,200	5,510	5,190	-5.6	0.2

* Preliminary estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

declines in the retail and manufacturing sectors caused *Wholesale Trade* and *Transportation* to decrease employment slightly. Fortunately, other *Service-Producing Industries* have bucked the downward trend. Last summer's opening of a second Verizon order-processing center in Coeur d'Alene allowed *Communication & Utilities* to increase employment. Center Partners, which opened a call center in Coeur d'Alene in March, added another 200 *Service* jobs in June, bringing its total employment to 500. The opening of new bank branches and the continued growth by independent banks and credit unions added 80 *Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate* jobs since June 2000. The job increase in *Government Administration* mostly stems from additional hiring by the U.S. Forest Service because of this summer's high danger of forest fires. Growth at the region's two largest community hospitals—Kootenai Medical Center in Coeur d'Alene and Bonner General Hospital in Sandpoint—created about 60 of the new *Government Administration* jobs.

Earlier fears about the summer tourist season have eased, as gasoline prices have fallen and forest fires that could potentially keep tourists away have not developed so far. The expansion of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's ca-

sino, Silverwood Theme park's growing reputation in the Seattle area, and the opening and expansion of some golf courses have helped bolster tourism.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Benewah County

- St. Maries Sausage, a sausage-making shop at 612 Main in St. Maries, closed last month after eight years in business.

Bonner County

- Melissa and Joel Baker recently opened the Kootenai Children's Center at 800 McGhee Road in Ponderay. The 6,000-square-foot childcare center, with a large fenced-in playground and a staff of eight, can care for up to 65 children, including infants.
- Keith Cutter recently opened a Dunhill Staffing Systems executive search franchise at 316 North Second Avenue Suite D in Sandpoint. Dunhill Professional Search of Sandpoint helps firms find highly skilled high-technology sales and marketing professionals for jobs throughout the United States.
- Denise Loehr recently opened Little Spruce Photography at 329½ First Avenue in Sandpoint. The studio specializes in photographs of children, families, and animals.
- The Sandpoint area Wal-Mart celebrated the grand opening of its addition in late June. The addition of a 57,000-square-foot full-service grocery store to the original 102,000-square-foot store made it a super-center, and pushed employment over 325 jobs.

Kootenai County

- Kootenai County recently welcomed the following new businesses: Visible Spectrum, a store featuring Oakley sunglasses and name-brand sportswear, accessories, watches, and packs, at the Plaza Shops of the Coeur d'Alene Resort; Discount Food Warehouse, selling discounted canned and boxed food, at 5648 Government Way; the River Cove, a six-bedroom bed and breakfast, on the Spokane River in Post Falls; Eklektic Korner, a store selling new and used books, furniture, clothing, household decorations, jewelry, and incense, at 9424 Government Way in Hayden; Beau Monde, an 800-square-foot store selling new and used clothing, shoes, and accessories, at 411 Best Avenue in Coeur d'Alene; Fratelli's Salon, a full-service beauty salon employing 13 people, in the Prairie Shopping Center just off Highway 95 in Hayden; High Road Human Services, offering case management and care for disabled and elderly clients, at 1323 Sherman Avenue in Coeur d'Alene; and Priced Rite Appliances, a 1,500-square-foot store selling refurbished washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, and freezers, at 510 N. Fourth Street in Coeur d'Alene.

Shoshone County

- July brought wonderful news to Shoshone County, but bad news soon followed. Together, the announcements vividly illustrate the transition of Shoshone County from an economy exclusively focused on mining to a more diversified economy that includes tourism, call centers, and light-manufacturing jobs:
 - » Eagle Crest announced a plan to turn the Silver Mountain Resort in Kellogg into a multi-season, destination resort over the next five years. Eagle Crest plans to break ground in the summer of 2002. Silver Mountain will add two high-speed quad chairlifts and a second entry point for the ski area. Silver Mountain will expand its ski terrain. The planned high-speed lift will increase its vertical rise from 2,200 feet to 3,700 feet. To attract more visitors after the ski season, Eagle Crest plans to build an 18-hole golf course. In addition, it plans to build ski-in, ski-out condo units. From 250 to 800 units will be built on the mountain and up to 150 units will surround the golf course.
 - » Hecla Mining Co. announced it will reduce employment at the Lucky Friday mine near Mullan from 189 to 42 this fall. Low silver and lead prices forced Hecla's decision. The layoff will leave the Galena mine near Osburn as the last fully operating mine in the Silver Valley, and it will bring *Mining* employment in Shoshone County below 360 jobs—the lowest level in more than 110 years.

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SEAPORT

NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO: CLEARWATER, IDAHO, LATAH, LEWIS, & NEZ PERCE COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

As shown in Seaport Table 1, the Seaport's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased in June 2001 to 4.0 percent from May's rate of 4.3 percent. In June 2000, the rate was 4.6 percent. Total Employment in June increased slightly (70) with increases in *Food Processing* and *Services* industries. However, year-over-year, total employment decreased by 260 workers. Because month-to-month employment and unemployment numbers are seasonally adjusted, a loss of 260 jobs is significant and bears watching. In comparison to June 2000, unemployment in June 2001 decreased by 220. It is generally assumed that when employment decreases, unemployment increases proportionally; this was not the case. Before analyzing why year-to-year unemployment did not increase, we will need July and August data.

In June, the Seaport's *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased 50 from May 2001, but decreased 760 from June 2000. The slight increase from May to June, usually a strong employment month, is cause for concern. Only *Service* and *Manufacturing* industries recorded growth. Compared to last year at this time, employment has decreased significantly. Employment decreased in all industries except for *Food Processing* and *Government*. *Mining*, *Construction*, and *Manufacturing* cut employment by 410, whereas *Service-Producing Industries* (*Transportation*, *Communication & Utilities*, *Trade*, *Finance*, *Insurance & Real Estate* and *Service*) decreased by 350.

SPECIAL TOPICS:

Per Capita Income

- Per Capita Income (PCI), which measures average income for a population, regardless of age or employment situation, generally is cited as a useful tool for judging the economic prosperity of a county. It is designed to include virtually all

Seaport Table 1: Labor Force & Employment
Nez Perce County, Idaho, and Asotin County, Washington

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	34,900	34,940	35,380	-0.1	-1.4
Unemployment	1,400	1,510	1,620	-7.3	-13.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.0	4.3	4.6		
Total Employment	33,500	33,430	33,760	0.2	-0.8
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	34,870	34,970	35,450	-0.3	-1.6
Unemployment	1,340	1,380	1,520	-2.9	-11.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.8	4.0	4.3		
Total Employment	33,530	33,590	33,930	-0.2	-1.2
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	25,830	25,780	26,590	0.2	-2.9
Goods-Producing Industries	5,240	5,090	5,650	2.9	-7.3
Mining & Construction	1,290	1,310	1,450	-1.5	-11.0
Manufacturing	3,950	3,780	4,200	4.5	-6.0
Food Processing	200	70	170	185.7	17.6
Lumber & Wood Products	700	690	760	1.4	-7.9
Paper Products	1,750	1,700	1,890	2.9	-7.4
All Other Manufacturing	1,300	1,320	1,380	-1.5	-5.8
Service-Producing Industries	20,590	20,690	20,940	-0.5	-1.7
Transportation	1,340	1,340	1,350	0.0	-0.7
Communications & Utilities	280	280	290	0.0	-3.4
Wholesale Trade	940	950	960	-1.1	-2.1
Retail Trade	5,230	5,290	5,340	-1.1	-2.1
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,330	1,350	1,460	-1.5	-8.9
Services	7,180	6,960	7,350	3.2	-2.3
Government Administration	2,010	2,000	1,920	0.5	4.7
Government Education	2,280	2,520	2,270	-9.5	0.4
*Preliminary Estimate	2,530	2,580	2,460	-1.9	2.8

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

sources of income called Total Personal Income (TPI). Therefore children, retirees, institutionalized people, and the unemployed are included in a county's PCI. The U.S. Department of Commerce recently revised PCI data from 1997 through 1999. The following are highlights of the 1999 data for counties in North Central Idaho:

- Ranked 26th out of 44 counties, Clearwater County's PCI in 1999 was \$18,429. Its TPI in 1999 increased only 3.4 percent from 1997.
- In 1999, Idaho County was 32nd out of 44 counties, with a PCI of \$17,690. Its TPI in 1999 increased 9.1 percent from 1997.
- Latah County ranked 14th in the state in 1999 with a PCI of \$21,391. Its TPI increased 8.6 percent from 1997.
- In 1999, Lewis County ranked 22nd on the county list with a PCI of \$19,074 and TPI increasing 9.3 percent from 1997.
- Nez Perce ranked 4th out of Idaho's 44 counties in 1999, with a PCI of \$24,519. Its TPI increased 9.8 percent from 1997.

Seaport Table 2: Total Personal Income and Per Capita Personal Income

Area Name	Total Personal Income (TPI) (\$ thousands)			TPI % Change	Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI)			State PCPI Rank
	1997	1998	1999		1997	1998	1999	
United States*	\$6,928,545,000	\$7,383,476,000	\$7,784,137,000	12.3	\$25,874	\$27,321	\$28,546	
Idaho	\$25,226,342	\$26,984,087	\$28,627,034	13.5	\$20,837	\$21,922	\$22,871	
Clearwater	166,827	169,020	172,481	3.4	17,740	18,083	18,429	26
Idaho	243,644	258,551	265,874	9.1	16,201	17,229	17,690	32
Latah	640,117	673,443	695,397	8.6	19,303	20,615	21,391	14
Lewis	68,810	72,942	75,208	9.3	17,074	18,258	19,074	22
Nez Perce	824,304	862,385	905,087	9.8	22,381	23,408	24,519	4
Asotin Co Washington	426,833	444,690	458,366	7.4	20,340	20,891	21,615	18

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, May 2001

*The personal income level shown for the United States is derived as the sum of the county estimates; it differs from the national income and product accounts (NIPA) estimate of personal income because by definition, it omits the earnings of Federal civilian and military personnel stationed abroad and of U.S. residents employed abroad temporarily by private U.S. firms. It can also differ from the NIPA estimates because of different data sources and revision schedules.

**Percent change was calculated from unrounded data

Agriculture

- Crop yields in North Central Idaho will likely be about average this season, but low commodity prices and high fuel and fertilizer costs will result in reduced farm income. Growers have been able to deal with high costs and low prices for crops when those factors are offset with above-average yields. Average yields this year indicate farmers may suffer more than they did last year, because last year's wheat yields were above average, which mitigated high fuel costs and record-low commodity prices.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Idaho & Lewis Counties

- Jacobs Lumber, a successful building and hardware supplies store in Kooskia, has decided to expand to Kamiah. After four years of successful business in Kooskia, owners plan to open a branch in Kamiah that will offer the same product line and customer service. The new business will be located along Highway 12 next to the Lolo Trail Café.
- In cooperation with inventor and businessman Tom York, Dye Machine in Grangeville has finished work on a prototype for a portable alignment hoist. The mechanism consists of a 360-inch-long trailer equipped with hydraulic lifts engineered to hoist 50,000 pounds up to 52 inches. Four corner hydraulic outriggers, assisted by laser alignment equipment, both stabilize and level the platform. It's completely self-contained, portable, and can hoist large vehicles — from semi trucks to cement trucks. According to the inventor and Dye Machine, the market for a portable hoist is very good, and they plan to start selling and marketing the new hoist.

Latah County

- A growing number of University of Idaho and Washington State University students have chosen to stay in Moscow/Pullman during the summer. Summer school enrollment increased significantly from previous years. Students find they can catch up on classes in a short period of time in summer school. These summer school students have contributed to an increase in *Trade and Services*, which usually experience a decrease during the summer because of the summer vacation.

Nez Perce and Asotin Counties

- Isothermal Systems Research (ISR), Clarkston's biggest high-tech employer, is planning an expansion. The company is considering sites in Clarkston and Pullman for a research and development unit, and it's considering a manufacturing plant in Spokane. Plans call for up to 400 employees each at the research and development unit, and at the manufacturing plant. ISR is developing and manufacturing prototypes of spray-cooled enclosures for electronics and computer equipment on military systems, which cost between \$50,000 and \$100,000. Fueling the expansion is a contract from the Naval Air Warfare Center's Aircraft Division in New Jersey that could be worth up to \$35 million over five years. The cooling equipment ISR makes could allow the military to use more up-to-date technologies and off-the-shelf products that otherwise would not be strong enough to last in adverse conditions.

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TREASURE VALLEY

ADA, ADAMS, BOISE, CANYON, ELMORE, GEM, OWYHEE, PAYETTE, VALLEY, & WASHINGTON COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Boise City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Ada and Canyon Counties, was 3.9 percent for June 2001, as shown in Treasure Valley Table 1. This rate was unchanged from May 2001, but was up three-tenths of a percentage point from June 2000. The number of individuals employed increased from 241,000 in May to 242,000 in June, and an increase occurred in the number of unemployed individuals, from 9,700 in May to 9,800 in June. The net increase in the *Civilian Labor Force* was 1,100 from May to June 2001, and an increase of 14,800 individuals from one year ago. Treasure Valley Table 2 shows the June 2001 labor force figures for all counties in Southwest Idaho.

Treasure Valley Table 2: June 2001 Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Figures for Southwest Idaho Counties				
	Civilian Labor Force	Number Unem- ployed	Percent Unem- ployed	Number Employed
Ada	182,110	6,270	3.4	175,840
Adams	1,660	220	13.4	1,440
Boise	2,540	135	5.3	2,405
Canyon	69,690	3,520	5.0	66,170
Elmore	9,330	570	6.1	8,760
Gem	6,550	560	8.5	5,990
Owyhee	4,240	20	4.7	4,040
Payette	9,880	660	6.7	9,220
Valley	4,350	330	7.5	4,020
Washington	4,510	360	8.0	4,150
Statewide	680,460	32,700	4.8	647,760

The number of *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 2,300 between May and June 2001, and grew by 8,700 jobs since June 2000. *Goods-Producing Industries* gained 1,400 jobs over the month. Job gains were primarily located in *Construction & Mining* (700) and *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment Manufacturing* (400), while the only *Goods-Producing Industry* to experience a loss in growth over the year was *Other Durable Goods*

Treasure Valley Table 1: Boise MSA Labor Force & Employment
Ada and Canyon counties

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change Last Month	% Change Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	251,800	250,700	237,000	0.4	6.2
Unemployment	9,800	9,700	8,600	1.0	14.0
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9%	3.9%	3.6%		
Total Employment	242,000	241,000	228,400	0.4	6.0
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	254,200	250,200	239,400	1.6	6.2
Unemployment	9,500	9,200	8,300	3.3	14.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.7%	3.7%	3.5%		
Total Employment	244,700	241,000	231,100	1.5	5.9
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	235,000	232,700	226,300	1.0	3.8
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	55,200	53,800	54,200	2.6	1.8
Mining & Construction	17,800	17,100	16,600	4.1	7.2
Manufacturing	37,400	36,700	37,600	1.9	-0.5
Durable Goods	28,900	28,400	28,900	1.8	0.0
Lumber & Wood Products	3,200	3,100	3,600	3.2	-11.1
Wood Buildings & Mobile Homes	800	700	1,000	14.3	-20.0
Other Lumber & Wood Products	2,400	2,400	2,600	0.0	-7.7
Fabricated Metal Products	7,300	7,300	8,000	0.0	-8.8
Ind. & Comm. Mach. & Computer Equip.	13,400	13,000	12,000	3.1	11.7
Electronic & Other Elect. Equip. & Comp.	1,900	1,800	2,100	5.6	-9.5
Transportation Equipment	1,800	1,700	2,100	5.9	-14.3
Other Durable Goods	1,300	1,500	1,100	-13.3	18.2
Nondurable Goods	8,500	8,300	8,700	2.4	-2.3
Food Products	5,600	5,500	5,800	1.8	-3.4
Canned Cured & Frozen Foods	1,800	1,700	1,900	5.9	-5.3
Printing, Pub & Allied Products	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods	900	800	900	12.5	0.0
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	179,800	178,900	172,100	0.5	4.5
Trans, Comm, & Public Util	12,300	12,200	12,000	0.8	2.5
Transportation	6,800	6,800	6,500	0.0	4.6
Comm & Elec, Gas & Sanitary Services	5,500	5,400	5,500	1.9	0.0
Trade	58,800	58,300	55,700	0.9	5.6
Wholesale Trade	13,900	13,900	13,500	0.0	3.0
Durable Goods	8,400	8,500	8,100	-1.2	3.7
Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,400	5,400	1.9	1.9
Retail Trade	44,900	44,400	42,200	1.1	6.4
General Merchandise Stores	6,400	6,200	4,400	3.2	45.5
Foods Stores	7,700	7,700	7,900	0.0	-2.5
Eating & Drinking Places	15,700	15,600	15,200	0.6	3.3
Other Retail Trade	15,100	14,900	14,700	1.3	2.7
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	11,200	11,100	11,200	0.9	0.0
Services	62,500	61,700	60,000	1.3	4.2
Business Services	14,900	15,000	15,300	-0.7	-2.6
Health Services	18,300	18,100	16,600	1.1	10.2
Hospitals	8,700	8,500	7,400	2.4	17.6
Eng., Acct., Res., Mngmt., & Related	4,800	4,800	4,600	0.0	4.3
Other Services	24,500	23,800	23,500	2.9	4.3
Government	35,000	35,600	33,200	-1.7	5.4
Federal Government	5,200	5,200	5,200	0.0	0.0
State Government	12,700	13,100	11,700	-3.1	8.5
Education	4,100	4,500	3,400	-8.9	20.6
Administration	8,600	8,600	8,300	0.0	3.6
Local Government	17,100	17,300	16,300	-1.2	4.9
Education	11,200	11,400	10,600	-1.8	5.7
Administration	5,900	5,900	5,700	0.0	3.5

* Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

Manufacturing (200). Year-over-year, *Goods-Producing Industries* gained 1,000 jobs with *Construction & Mining* (1,200), *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment Manufacturing* (1,400), and *Other Durable Goods Manufacturing* (200) experiencing job gains. *Printing, Publishing & Allied Products Manufacturing* and *Other Nondurable Goods Manufacturing* remained stable year-over-year, neither gaining nor losing jobs, with every other industry losing jobs year-over-year. *Fabricated Metal Products Manufacturing* lost the most jobs year-over-year with 700 jobs lost.

Service-Producing Industries gained 900 jobs from May 2001 to June 2001. Job gains in *Communications & Electricity, Gas & Sanitary Services* (100), *Nondurable Goods Wholesale Trade* (100), *General Merchandise Stores* (200), *Eating & Drinking Places* (100), *Other Retail Trade* (200), *Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate* (100), *Health Services* (200), and *Other Services* (700) outpaced job losses in *Durable Goods Trade* (100), *Business Services* (100), *State Government Education* (400), and *Local Government Education* (200) to create a net increase in employment. Year-over-year, there was an increase of 7,700 jobs in *Service-Producing Industries*. *Food Stores* and *Business Services* were the only industries to experience a job loss. The most notable job gains over the year were noted in *General Merchandise Stores* (2,000), *Health Services* (1,700) primarily *Hospitals* (1,300), and *Other Services* (1,000).

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Boise City MSA

- Albertson's announced in mid-July that the company will close 165 stores, cut between 15 and 20 percent of its managerial and administrative jobs above store level, and consolidate the six regional offices into two. These changes could cut annual expenses by \$250 million. Albertson's officials also stated that more closures and additional job cuts could be announced at a later date. As of this date, the company has not revealed which stores will be closed and who will be laid off.
- The Boise IMAX Theater closed on Aug. 1, 2001. The closure is part of Edwards Theatres' ongoing bankruptcy proceeding to close under-performing theaters. The company is not renewing its contract with the IMAX Corporation.
- In late July, the city of Meridian held a ribbon cutting ceremony that officially opened the Five Mile Creek Pathway. The project was started in 1994 and is a citywide pathway system for walkers, bikers, and rollerbladers. The path extends about a mile between Meridian and Linder Roads. The project was funded through Federal Highway and City dollars, and construction of the pathway was administered by the Idaho Transportation Department.

- United Heritage Mutual Life Insurance Co. moved from its Nampa location to its new location in Meridian in July. The move, part of the company's five-year strategic plan, places the company in the center of the valley, and provides increased visibility from I-84—both desirable goals for the firm. The company will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at its new location on August 22.
- Studio III, a photography, video and digital imaging business, opened in Nampa in June. Randal Warren and his family operate the business at 1404 N. Midland Boulevard, Suite I. It is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Orphan Annie's reopened at 801 Everett Street in Caldwell in June after a fire destroyed the restaurant in February 1999. The restaurant was rebuilt just like the original and features the same menu.
- Intermountain Community Bancorp opened a business loan office in Nampa in July. The Nampa Business Financial Services Center is located at 521 Twelfth Avenue South, and offers services to support local businesses, agriculture, and community programs.
- In early July, Dennis Hicks opened Treasure Valley Mortgage Consulting in Nampa. The company specializes in saving people money on mortgages.
- MCMS laid off an additional 96 employees in mid-July and announced that more layoffs are possible. This is the latest round in a number of layoffs for the company this year. The cited reason for the layoffs is a collapse in customer demand for electronics. The company also announced the possibility of seeking bankruptcy protection in the future.
- Micron Technology and DuPont Photomasks announced plans to open a \$150 million, 90,000 square-foot facility in Boise next year. A final agreement between the two companies still needs to be signed. The new plant is expected to employ about 150 workers. The new plant will be completed by next fall and will be fully operational by the end of 2002.
- In late June, Micron Technology announced a hiring freeze and cuts in top executive salaries of up to 10 percent in response to the slowdown in demand for computer components. The company normally hires between 100 and 200 people a month. Company leaders hope to save money through these cost saving measures. When the market improves, the company plans to restore salaries and resume hiring.
- ZiLOG announced in late June that it planned to reduce its worldwide workforce by 14 percent by year end, with most of the reductions occurring at the Nampa location due to the consolidation of its

two Nampa fabrication plants and test operations. The consolidation will be finalized by Dec. 31, 2001. The company also announced it will continue efforts to sell its Mod II plant, currently valued at \$3 million.

- Hewlett-Packard announced a layoff of 6,000 workers—more than 6 percent of its workforce—due to worsening economic conditions in the technology industry. No announcement was made on where the layoffs would occur. The company employs 3,800 in Boise, and 86,000 worldwide.
- SCP Global Technology also announced a layoff in late July of 250. Officials state that at least 200 of the jobs lost will be at the Boise facility. After the layoffs, the company will employ 700 in Boise and 150 more in various locations around the world.

Adams County

- In late June, the Adams County Courthouse Restoration Committee received grants totaling \$22,500. The grant monies will be used for a feasibility study on restoring the historic county courthouse. The grant monies were received from Idaho Heritage Trust, the State Historical Preservation Office, the US Forest Service (Rural Community Assistance Grant), and the Idaho Commission on the Arts. ZGA Architects and Planners will perform the study that will include two phases. The first is an analysis of the structure and examination of the roof, windows, exterior, restrooms, public corridors, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems, interior finishes, site improvements, and cost estimates for improvements. The second phase includes an assessment of possible uses for the building, and which uses would be beneficial to and desired by the community. There may be additional phases based on the final outcome of the second phase. The courthouse recently was listed as one of the ten most endangered historic properties in the state by Preservation Idaho, a statewide, non-profit organization.
- In early July, Governor Dirk Kempthorne declared Adams County a drought disaster area. The declaration makes it possible for water right holders in Adams County to apply to the Idaho Department of Water Resources for expedited processing of temporary changes in points of water diversion.
- In mid-June, Western Timber, currently in Washington County, announced an expansion to Council. The firm will open a wood products storage site, and will add 10-15 new jobs that could eventually increase to 30.

Boise County

- In mid-June, the National Ski Area's Association

awarded Bogus Basin the top honor in the "Best Program to Grow the Sport to New Participants" category. Bogus Basin's new Passport Program offered guests the learn-to-ski/snowboard program last season. Nearly 1,600 people participated and all sessions were sold out. The program consisted of a series of lessons, lift tickets, and equipment rentals for \$199. In spite of the Passport Program success, Bogus Basin announced that its season ski pass sales were down 3,000 year-over-year. According to a survey conducted by the resort, the primary reasons for the drop in sales included the worsening economy and low snow pack in the 2000-2001 season.

Elmore County

- Cornerstone Dental opened recently in Mountain Home. Dr. Shane Newton and Dr. Bruce Greenwood share their time between Boise and Mountain Home and see patients Monday through Thursday. Cornerstone Dental is located at 125 South Tenth East Street, offering a variety of services including no-drill laser dentistry, one-hour laser-powered teeth whitening, low radiation digital x-rays, and orthodontic services.
- The Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce (MHCC) will share \$2.4 million in Idaho Regional Travel and Convention Grant funds awarded by the Idaho Travel Council to the 38 regional travel committees, chambers, and other non-profit organizations. The grant for MHCC totaled \$11,259, and will be used for the familiarization tour, an advertisement in Idaho's state travel guide, and an adventure program package in conjunction with SCIRTA.
- In mid-June, groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the new Idaho Power gas turbine plant in Elmore County. The plant should be operational by August.

Gem County

- In early July, Emmett's downtown revitalization plan kicked off, funded in part by a U. S. Forest Service Grant totaling \$22,000. The grant is administered by the Gem Economic Development Association (GEDA) and distributed by West Central Highlands Resource, Conservation, and Development Council, Inc. (RC&D). Individual businesses, chosen on a first-come, first-served basis, will receive between \$80 and \$2,000 of the grant money. Funds will be used for building repairs, repainting and new canvas awnings where needed.

Owyhee County

- The Marsing Resource Center (MRC) was selected as a site for the 4-H computer lab. The University of Idaho Cooperative Extension System 4-H program

and the MRC worked together to receive the grant bringing the Power Up computer lab to the MRC. The lab will consist of 10 to 15 Gateway computers, a printer, and network equipment. Software, technical support, AOL accounts and training also are part of the package. Two site staff will be trained on the Power Up Internet curriculum in Washington DC, which also is covered by the grant. The lab will be installed in December. Power Up is a charitable not-for-profit Delaware corporation that is organized and operated for the purpose of assisting underserved youth to obtain skills, experiences, and resources required to succeed in the digital age.

Payette County

- In late July, work started on a Skate Park in Payette. Forty yards of cement were donated and delivered by City Transfer of Emmett, and volunteer crews were on hand to help with the "first pour." The park needs three more pours of 40 yards each to complete the concrete slab. Carpenter Union Steel constructed the half-pipe — a U-shaped skating ramp — with donated labor, and Treasure Valley Scrap Metals donated the rails and anchors for the half-pipe. The other contributors to the skate park include the City of Payette, Mullinix Engineering, Sav-On Lumber, Intermountain Community Bank, Adam Yagger, Jerry's Market, JYD Builders, and Champion Homes.
- Construction of the new Farmers and Merchants State Bank in Fruitland is nearly completed. The staff planned to move into the new building in mid-August.
- In early July, Governor Dirk Kempthorne declared Payette County a drought disaster area. The declaration makes it possible for water right holders in Payette County to apply to the Idaho Department of Water Resources for expedited processing of temporary changes in points of water diversion.
- In early July, Payette County was granted funding to hire an economic development coordinator, according to Payette County Commissioners. The position is funded through the Rural Economic Development Professional Outreach Program. The grant monies totaled \$30,000. The county will contribute an additional \$20,000 to the arrangement. The total money will be used to help support the coordinator with office space, furniture, and supplies. The coordinator will work with Payette County and its cities to market its economic potential.

Valley County

- The McCall Area Chamber of Commerce received \$80,500 from the Idaho Travel Council (ITC) for promotion of tourism in the area throughout both summer and winter seasons.

The grant was part of \$2.4 million in Idaho Regional Travel and Convention Grant funds awarded by the ITC. The grant will help fund a variety of projects including: an annual activity guide published by the chamber; attendance to trade shows in such industries as snowmobiling and mountain biking; a gathering of snowmobile manufacturers in McCall; advertising on specific websites; support for a project entitled "Fall in McCall"—a promotion tied to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration; and hosting travel writers in the area. The rest of the money will cover miscellaneous office expenses and renovation of the Chamber's Internet website.

- The Wild Bear Pub & Grub opened on July 1. The business, located on Third Street next to Harry's Dry Dock in McCall, is described as a place where parents can feel comfortable bringing their children to eat dinner and also a place where someone can stop by after work for a cold beer at a fair price. The business will operate from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Take-out is available.

Washington County

- In late June, the Weiser National Oldtime Fiddler's Festival came to a conclusion. This year, there were more contestants, more RVs, and more tickets sold than in the past. Strong sales receipts were reported at the recording studio, souvenir shop, and the fiddle building and repair shop, but volunteerism was lower than in recent years.
- In late June, the State of Idaho approved an application submitted by Washington and Adams counties to fund a new economic development specialist position serving the two-county region. The two counties will receive between \$20,000 and \$45,000 to fund a full-time economic development specialist who will work on business retention, expansion, and diversification projects for both counties.

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MAGIC VALLEY

BLAINE, CAMAS, CASSIA, GOODING, JEROME, LINCOLN, MINIDOKA, & TWIN FALLS COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Magic Valley LMA was 3.9 percent in June 2001, as seen in Magic Valley Table 1. This was one-tenth of a percentage point lower than in May 2001, and six-tenths of a percentage point lower than in June 2000. *Civilian Labor Force* dropped 1.2 percent year-over-year, but this decrease has been more than offset by a 13.1 percent drop in the number of persons unemployed.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs showed a 4.2 percent decrease from June 2000 to June 2001, and many sectors have shown decreases in employment. The most significant decrease has been in *Services* jobs, which decreased 11.5 percent year-over-year. *Services* had been the fastest growing sector in the Magic Valley employment picture and now is showing decreases. Most of this reflects a drop-off in tourism that has occurred due to drought conditions and less business in *Hotels & Other Lodging Places* and *Eating & Drinking Establishments*. Also, tourism-related industries, such as float trip operators and tour guides, are finding fewer people participating in local tourist attractions such as river trips and visits to Shoshone Falls. *Manufacturing Durable Goods* also had a significant yearly decrease of 9.1 percent, and even *Food Processing* decreased slightly as food processors did not aggressively fill positions vacated by attrition. The only major sectors to show increases were *Government Education* and *Wholesale Trade*.

The overall picture reflects national and statewide trends toward economic cooling. Despite dips in some employment sectors, the Magic Valley LMA still has a very low unemployment rate, and the area has thus far avoided the large layoffs announced in other parts of the state.

Magic Valley Table 1: Labor Force & Employment
Twin Falls, Jerome, and Gooding counties

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	46,630	47,790	47,210	-2.4	-1.2
Unemployment	1,840	1,910	2,120	-3.7	-13.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.9	4.0	4.5		
Total Employment	44,790	45,880	45,090	-2.4	-0.7
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	47,400	47,960	47,990	-1.2	-1.2
Unemployment	1,720	1,750	1,980	-1.7	-13.1
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.6	3.6	4.1		
Total Employment	45,680	46,210	46,010	-1.1	-0.7
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	36,740	37,280	38,350	-1.4	-4.2
Goods-Producing Industries	7,140	6,940	7,310	2.9	-2.3
Mining & Construction	2,200	2,100	2,210	4.8	-0.5
Manufacturing	4,940	4,840	5,100	2.1	-3.1
Durable Goods	800	810	880	-1.2	-9.1
Nondurable Goods	4,140	4,030	4,220	2.7	-1.9
Food Processing	3,050	2,970	3,130	2.7	-2.6
All Other Nondurable Goods	1,090	1,060	1,090	2.8	0.0
Service-Producing Industries	29,600	30,340	31,040	-2.4	-4.6
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	2,550	2,650	2,800	-3.8	-8.9
Wholesale Trade	2,370	2,350	2,280	0.9	3.9
Retail Trade	8,030	8,170	8,230	-1.7	-2.4
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,260	1,270	1,320	-0.8	-4.5
Services	7,980	7,940	9,020	0.5	-11.5
Government Administration	3,810	3,750	3,890	1.6	-2.1
Government Education	3,600	4,210	3,500	-14.5	2.9

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Twin Falls County

- The Buhl Chamber of Commerce selected a new Executive Director to head that organization. Merrily Ann Heuther was hired to take over the day-to-day operation of the Buhl Chamber on a part-time basis beginning August 1, 2001. Heuther will leave her position as director of sales for Cavanaugh's Best Western hotel in Twin Falls, and will move to Buhl to assume her new position.
- South Central District Health Department announced that a new Planned Parenthood Clinic will be located in Twin Falls in response to area needs. Planned Parenthood is a non-profit organization that seeks to assist women in sexual education and birth control alternatives. Due to the high poverty levels and birth statistics for South Central Idaho, the decision to locate the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Twin Falls was

made. This will be only the second PP Clinic in Idaho.

- Twin Falls-based APEX Containers purchased the former Seminis Seed warehouses and loading docks this spring. Seminis sold the warehouses as part of its global reorganization undertaken earlier this year. APEX Containers has undertaken warehousing as a complement to its container business. APEX will also employ six former Semis workers so that a nucleus of experienced warehouse workers can be retained.

Jerome, Gooding, Lincoln, Blaine, & Camas Counties

- WestFarm Foods, a Seattle-based dairy processor, announced that it plans to construct a 70,500-square-foot milk dehydration plant next to its existing condensing plant in Jerome. The new facility in the Jerome Industrial Park will have the initial capacity to convert 3.3 million pounds of locally processed milk per day into nonfat dry milk. The company said it designed the new plant to be further expanded to process 6 million pounds of milk per day into cheese, whey, or nonfat dry milk, depending upon the prevailing markets. WestFarm Foods considered many locations before deciding to build right next to its condensation plant. The new dehydration plant will add 23 permanent full-time jobs when it begins operations in July 2002.
- Mexican President Vicente Fox, along with Mexican First Lady Marta Sahaguin de Fox and Mexico's Ambassador to the United States, Juan Jose Bremer, attended a retreat sponsored by Allen & Company in Sun Valley. President Fox was invited to be the keynote speaker at the retreat that is a gathering of media and business leaders from all parts of the United States and the world. President Fox spoke about improved trade relations between the United States and Mexico and other issues, such as immigration. Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne also met with President Fox to discuss trade issues between Idaho and Mexico. Governor Kempthorne led a very successful trade mission to Mexico last May.
- An affordable housing complex was recently dedicated in the City of Hailey. The Balmoral Apartment Complex is reserved for residents earning 30 to 60 percent of the area median income, or \$19,950 to \$39,900. Rent on one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments ranges from \$330 to \$775 per month. The project was made possible through the federal low-income housing tax credit which is administered on behalf of the state by the Idaho Housing and Finance Association. The 192-unit apartment complex is a response to the very pressing need for

affordable housing in the Blaine County area. The average home in Sun Valley and Ketchum sold for \$1 million in 2000 (double from eight years previously). The average cost of a home in Hailey and Bellevue is \$250,000. By contrast, wages grew about 4.8 percent per year for the last decade compared to a 9 percent annual growth in home sale prices. This situation has made hiring service sector workers difficult for the resorts and hotels in the area, because many workers cannot afford to live in the Wood River Valley. Blaine County is considering the affordable housing issue and is looking at possible solutions.

Cassia & Minidoka Counties

- The Burley Irrigation District voted July 10, 2001, to cut an additional six acre-inches from an already 25 percent lower water allotment. Although fewer acres have been planted this year and crops are being watered sparingly, heat-caused evaporation is forcing authorities to make these cuts. Farmers in the district were notified of the reduction by letter and were urged to conserve water by only irrigating essential crops. The District also asked farmers not to irrigate grain stubble. Cassia County has been declared a drought disaster area, as have many other counties in South Central Idaho.
- Wal-Mart spokespeople have confirmed that it will expand its present Burley store into a supercenter. The new plans call for a 73 percent expansion in square-footage, to a total of 161,320 square feet. This will make the store slightly larger than the new Jerome supercenter. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2002 with completion expected by 2003. The store presently employs approximately 200 people, and Wal-Mart expects to hire 175 additional workers.

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SOUTHEAST IDAHO

BANNOCK, BEAR LAKE, BINGHAM, CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, ONEIDA, & POWER COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

The U.S. economic slowdown made its way to Southeast Idaho, particularly in the *Manufacturing* sector. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Pocatello Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) jumped five-tenths of a percentage point in June 2001, to 4.4 percent. Southeast Idaho Table 1 shows the number of individuals unemployed in June increased by 180 to 1,760. Lay-offs at American Microsystems, Astaris, and Gottschalks Department Store idled more than 300 workers in the area. Idaho's unemployment rate remained at 4.8 percent in June 2001, four-tenths of a percentage point higher than the Pocatello MSA rate. Despite the recent lay-offs, the unemployment rate remained more favorable in June 2001 than in June 2000 when it was four-tenths of a percentage point higher at 4.8 percent.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs dropped 3.7 percent in June 2001 from May 2001 because of decreased jobs in *Manufacturing* and *Education*. The U.S. economic slowdown hit the technology-manufacturing sector especially hard, forcing one of Pocatello's major employers, American Microsystems, to decrease its workforce by more than 200 workers. American Microsystems remains Pocatello's largest private employer. The rise in energy prices, combined with heightened global competition, forced Astaris to decrease its workforce by nearly 80 workers in June 2001, and more reductions will occur through June 2002. Spring semester ended at Idaho State University, decreasing the number of jobs in *Government Education* by 1,090. *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* dipped nine-tenths of a percentage point in June 2001 from one year ago. Most job reductions were in *Construction* and *Manufacturing*.

SPECIAL TOPIC: Dynamic Economy

Economies are dynamic—ever changing! They expand and many prosper, or they contract and many feel the

Southeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment
Pocatello City MSA (Bannock County)

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	40,320	40,760	38,900	-1.1	3.7
Unemployment	1,760	1,580	1,860	11.4	-5.4
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	3.9	4.8		
Total Employment	38,560	39,180	37,030	-1.6	4.1
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	39,490	40,660	38,090	-2.9	3.7
Unemployment	1,690	1,520	1,760	11.2	-4.0
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	3.7	4.6		
Total Employment	37,800	39,140	36,330	-3.4	4.0
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	32,240	33,470	32,540	-3.7	-0.9
Goods-Producing Industries	4,310	4,510	4,670	-4.4	-7.7
Mining & Construction	1,650	1,610	1,750	2.5	-5.7
Manufacturing	2,660	2,900	2,920	-8.3	-8.9
Service-Producing Industries	27,930	28,960	27,870	-3.6	0.2
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	1,810	1,820	1,870	-0.5	-3.2
Wholesale Trade	1,440	1,490	1,400	-3.4	2.9
Retail Trade	7,080	7,120	6,960	-0.6	1.7
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,480	1,460	1,490	1.4	-0.7
Services	8,170	8,070	8,050	1.2	1.5
Government Administration	3,520	3,480	3,540	1.1	-0.6
Government Education	4,430	5,520	4,560	-19.7	-2.9

*Preliminary Estimate

**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

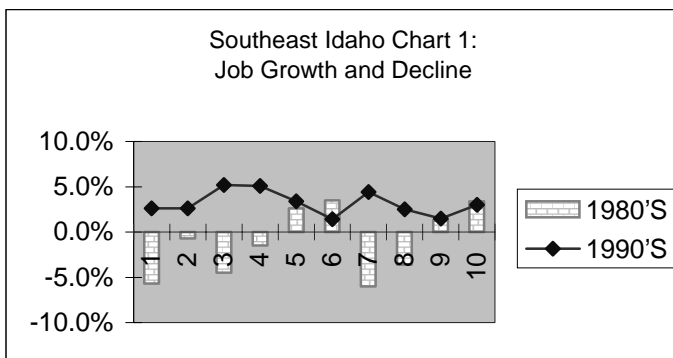
pinch. They are cyclical—moving up for a period of time then drifting down for a period of time. The Southeast Idaho economy is no exception—it consistently changes. Recently, economic news has been mostly unfavorable: major lay-offs, agriculture and energy woes, and drought. As the global, national, and state economies slow, the trickle-down effect begins to take its toll on communities such as those in Southeast Idaho.

Some economists have said that 2001 may be as bad as the 80s, predicting that statewide tax revenues will decline, job growth will decline, and the unemployment rate will climb. That certainly may be true given the nature of our state's current economic conditions. The high-tech sector is in decline or at least in transition; our major industries—lumber, agriculture, and mining—are in decline; a major drought is affecting agriculture, tourism and recreation; and competition is driving down the cost of Idaho products.

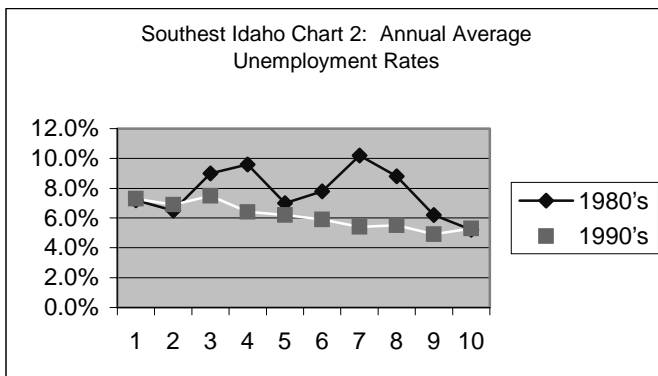
But, Southeast Idaho's economy is somewhat different from the statewide economy and very different from its 1980s economy.

- Southeast Idaho did not enjoy the huge economic expansion that other areas of the state experienced and, therefore, will not likely experience major economic contraction. The area experienced slower and more limited growth than other parts of the state.

- The Southeast Idaho economy was not as diversified in the 1980s and did not have the ability to absorb downward fluctuations. During the 1980s, it was not uncommon for the number of jobs to fall by more than 1,000 in one year. Communities were too dependent on one or two major employers or industries for their livelihoods. For instance, Bucyrus Erie moved into Pocatello in the 1970s, hired more than a thousand local workers, brought in several hundred workers from outside the area, and then closed, leaving more than a thousand unemployed workers in the community. That closure had the trickle-down effect of forcing many other businesses to close. *Southeast Chart 1: Job Growth and Decline* compares job growth and decline in the 1980s with job growth in the 1990s. Today, there are many more businesses in many different industries, and the likelihood of one business having a similar effect on the economy now is much more limited. While the area may experience lower job growth, it is unlikely that we will see jobs decline at the rates that occurred in the 1980s.



- In the 1980s, there was double-digit inflation and interest rates climbed to more than 20 percent, as opposed to today's economy where inflation is at 3 to 4 percent and mortgage interest rates remain around 7 percent.
- Unemployment rates climbed to more than 10 percent in the 1980s while today they remain between 4 and 5 percent (see *Southeast Chart 2: Average Annual Unemployment Rates*).

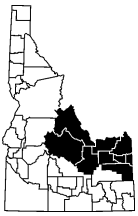


- Individual attitudes about the labor market have changed. Today's businesses and workers have adjusted to change—changing markets, jobs, businesses, and careers.
- Today, most communities have (or are organizing) specialized economic and community development organizations to assist in community revitalization and business recruitment.

Despite recent lay-offs and the current economic slow-down, there continues to be much to be excited about in Southeast Idaho.

- Home Depot opened a regional building supply store in Pocatello. The store added about 130 jobs to the area's economy.
- Convergys is expanding its operation in Pocatello and expects to add another 250 jobs.
- Anderson Lumber is rebuilding its \$1.5 million outdoor lumberyard, which was destroyed by fire earlier this year.
- Construction of Farm Bureau's new 93,000-square-foot headquarters office in Pocatello should be complete by spring 2002.
- A new Super 8 Motel opened in Blackfoot, adding jobs to the economy. The motel is located adjacent to Interstate 15 near the Blackfoot interchange.
- A new professional office building, the Manwaring Building, opened in Blackfoot across from the Bingham County Courthouse on North Maple.
- The historic Enders Hotel in Soda Springs has been restored. The 30-room bed and breakfast also houses a restaurant and gift shop.
- The Preston Golf and County Club completed and opened the back nine holes of its golf course.
- A miniature golf course opened in Whitney. The 12-hole course includes sand traps, water holes, and other traps. Plans for expansion of the recreational facility include the addition of six more holes to the miniature golf course, horseshoe pits, a skateboard area, and a miniature train.
- Construction of the new American Falls High School is on schedule and should be ready for occupancy when school starts in 2002.

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NORTHEAST IDAHO

BONNEVILLE, BUTTE, CLARK, CUSTER, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, LEMHI, MADISON, & TETON COUNTIES

LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

The Bonneville Labor Market Area (LMA), consisting of Bingham, Bonneville, Butte, and Jefferson counties, saw a monthly unemployment rate decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point, currently at 3.2 percent. The unemployment rate was down six-tenths of a percentage point from June 2000. The Bonneville LMA holds the lowest unemployment rate compared to the state's six other LMA's and two Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The LMA's unemployment rate in June was 1.6 percentage points lower than the state's rate of 4.8 percent, and 1.3 percentage points lower than the national rate of 4.5 percent.

At 2.9 percent in June, Bonneville County held the lowest unemployment rate in the Bonneville LMA, followed by Jefferson, Butte, and Bingham counties at 3.3, 3.8, and 3.9 percent, respectively. The unemployment rate for Idaho Falls, the largest city in the LMA, decreased one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 3.1 percent, and decreased three-tenths of a percentage point from June 2000.

The *Civilian Labor Force* showed an increase of 770 people over the month, with the economy holding steady. Seasonal demands for construction workers, garden and building supply workers, and recreation workers are still apparent, along with a need for call center workers. The year-over-year growth in the *Civilian Labor Force* was 3,920 people.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs increased by 1,400 over the month, for a total of 65,160 jobs in the LMA. *Goods-Producing Industries* increased by 710 jobs over the month, with *Construction* adding almost 580 of those jobs. *Manufacturing* experienced an increase of 130 jobs (mostly in *Nondurable Goods*), its largest monthly increase in 2001. *Service-Producing Industries* also increased, adding 690 jobs. *Services* increased by 210 jobs. More than 150 of those jobs were in *Hotels & Other Lodging* and *Amusement & Recreation Ser-*

Northeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment
Bonneville, Bingham, Butte, & Jefferson counties

	June 2001*	May 2001	June 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	83,470	82,700	79,550	0.9	4.9
Unemployment	2,710	2,770	3,040	-2.2	-10.9
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.2	3.3	3.8		
Total Employment	80,760	79,930	76,520	1.0	5.5
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	84,700	82,870	80,680	2.2	5.0
Unemployment	2,390	2,300	2,650	3.9	-9.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.8	2.8	3.3		
Total Employment	82,310	80,570	78,030	2.2	5.5
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**	65,160	63,760	63,630	2.2	2.4
Goods-Producing Industries	10,170	9,460	9,830	7.5	3.5
Mining & Construction	4,910	4,330	4,460	13.4	10.1
Manufacturing	5,260	5,130	5,370	2.5	-2.0
Food Processing	2,680	2,640	2,880	1.5	-6.9
Ind. & Com. Mach. & Computer Equip.	460	440	560	4.5	-17.9
All Other Manufacturing	2,120	2,050	1,930	3.4	9.8
Service-Producing Industries	54,990	54,300	53,800	1.3	2.2
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	2,340	2,310	2,350	1.3	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	6,280	6,200	6,360	1.3	-1.3
Retail Trade	11,490	11,410	11,610	0.7	-1.0
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,950	1,920	1,870	1.6	4.3
Services	21,810	21,600	21,120	1.0	3.3
Government Administration	5,790	5,460	5,100	6.0	13.5
Government Education	5,330	5,400	5,390	-1.3	-1.1
*Preliminary Estimate					
**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month					

vices. Engineering & Management saw a decrease of 20 jobs for the month, and more announced decreases will be noticeable in the near future since the monthly data is generated from the middle of the month's activities and does not capture the complete month. *Government Administration* increased by 330 jobs within *Local Government* and *Federal Government*. The only major government industry decrease was seen in *Government Education*, with a decrease of 70 jobs as the spring school session came to an end.

A year-over-year comparison shows that *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 1,530 jobs. *Goods-Producing Industries* increased by 340, with *Construction* and *All Other Manufacturing* being the only contributors. *Service-Producing Industries* showed an overall increase of 1,190 jobs, with *Services* and *Government Administration* each increasing 690 jobs. All other major industries showed decreases with the exception of *Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate* that increased by 80 jobs.

SPECIAL TOPIC:

Dancing in the Streets

Rexburg (Madison County) again hosted the International Folk Dance Festival for the event's 16th year. Dancers from all over the world came to

be a part of this occasion and to share their culture, while experiencing America's culture. The teams change each year, with this year's representatives from eight countries: Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Peru, Romania, South Korea, and an American Indian team from Fort Hall representing the United States. For the past three years, the festival has been listed as one of the top 100 events in North America by the American Bus Association, and rightly so. The festival lasted for eight days and was full of free events as well as paid performances. The festival is now estimated to attract 60,000 people and generates nearly \$3 million in revenue for the economy.

The festival kicked off with an International Street Dance on Main Street Friday night followed by the International Parade Saturday morning, a change from Monday in past years, to accommodate more people and vendors. The International Street Festival covered the majority of the day, consisting of vendor booths from each participating country and local businesses. Music, dancing, and entertainment occupied the streets, with two intersections set aside for staging areas for the dance teams. Photographs were taken with the teams. The evening was reserved for an Opening Ceremony at Ricks College Viking Stadium. The Opening Ceremony was similar to that of the Olympic Games as each country's team carried its respective flag and wore traditional clothing as they entered the field while their respective national anthem played. Teams from each country exchanged gifts with the other teams, and then each team performed a native dance. Fireworks, set to each country's traditional music, ended the spectacular display. The Opening Ceremony, street activities, and Youth Culture Days were free of charge. Youth Culture Days lasted 3 days, and children learned the dances and culture of the various teams.

Paid performances took place the last three days of the festival at the Hart Auditorium of Ricks College, with pre-shows two of the days and a closing ceremony the last night. There was a community picnic and band concert free to the public at Smiths Park in Rexburg the final day prior to the Closing Ceremony. Since the Festival ended August 4, make sure you watch for the Festival next July. The Festival requires a year of preparation and hundreds of behind-the-scenes volunteers.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

Bonneville County

- Ttest, a biotech company that announced its plans to build a manufacturing facility in Rexburg earlier this year, currently is operating out of Idaho Falls as a temporary site until the facility can be built in Rexburg. The company manufactures saliva-based test strips for blood alcohol levels. It currently is operating in the leased Technology Center, has six employees, and is making sure the business can operate in the area from a sales, distribution, and financing perspective. The company states it is more concerned with building a company than a building for now, but eventually plans to build a facility in Rexburg, though later than

proposed. Being in Idaho Falls will give the company the opportunity to start building their workforce and securing equipment, while having a large enough lab to accommodate the company.

- The Idaho Falls Regional airport is starting to break ground on the second phase of the airport's major renovation project. The middle portion of the airport will be closed and travelers will be routed through special doors on the east and west wings of the building during this phase. The airport's businesses and flights will not be affected during the construction. Total renovation is estimated at \$6.2 million and will add 12,000 square feet to the building. The complete renovation is expected to be finished by September 2002. This second phase should be completed by May 2002, and will focus on the remodel of the building's two wings.
- Tele-Servicing Innovations (TSI) is moving its Idaho Falls operation to a space on Woodruff Avenue next door to AMX International. The company now employs 130 workers in Idaho Falls. At 19,000 square feet, the new building will allow for expanded training space. The company provides over-the-phone marketing for large companies like HBO and DirecTV. TSI aggressively is setting up operations throughout the state of Idaho, and has found rural communities to be a big asset.

Madison County

- Western Wats, the largest privately owned data collection company in the nation, recently opened a new business-to-business market research division of its survey call center at 8 South First East in Rexburg. The company gathers information through the Internet and by telephone to learn what services businesses want, and offers market research, public opinion polling, customized programming, and data processing. Ricks College's decision to become a four-year university worked well into Western Wats' expansion plan. The company cited a highly qualified student population as a great asset. Western Wats employs 165 workers, but the new division has already added 40 workers and plans to add up to 100 by next summer.
- Tri-County Equipment closed its doors after 31 years of business. The Rexburg dealership pointed to faltering farms and profit-driven manufacturers as the main reasons. The dealership carried large farming equipment and serviced the local communities through three generations of the Burt family. Tri-County employed 16 full-time workers.

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WOMEN'S WAGES IN IDAHO

In 2000, the median annual income for women in Idaho was \$12,446, only 49.8 percent of the median income for men, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This large gap between men's and women's median income in Idaho ranked 49th compared to other states; only Wyoming's wage gap was greater. Is the situation for women in Idaho as grim as it appears? The first step towards answering that question is to understand how these income figures were obtained and what they mean.

The median income figures released by the Census Bureau were obtained as part of the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, an operational test conducted as part of the Census 2000. The Supplementary Survey used the American Community Survey (ACS) questionnaire to collect demographic, social, economic, and housing data. The questions asked are similar to those on the decennial census long form. The ACS is a large, continuous survey conducted by the Census Bureau that mails questionnaires to a sample of household addresses.

The Census Bureau cautions data users that income amounts are often under-reported because people tend to forget small or irregular sources of income. For this survey, income included the eight categories listed below:

- » Wage or Salary Income
- » Self-Employment Income (Farm and Nonfarm)
- » Interest, Dividend, or Net Rental Income
- » Social Security Income
- » Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- » Public Assistance Income
- » Retirement or Disability Income
- » All Other Income (i.e. unemployment compensation, Veterans' Administration payments, alimony and child support, gambling winnings, and other periodic income sources)

In determining the median income, the income of a woman living on public assistance is treated the same as the income of a woman working full-time for wages. But income is not the same as wages. It is, therefore, unrealistic to divide the median income for females in Idaho by 2,080 hours (40 hours multiplied by 52 weeks) to estimate an average hourly wage for women. Not all income is earned by working, and not all women work a typical 40-hour week. For instance, in 2000, 72.2 percent of women in the national labor force worked full-time

(35 hours or more), while 86.3 percent of men worked full-time. Fewer hours typically means less income, so it seems reasonable that women's median income would be somewhat less than men's as measured by the Census Bureau.

For Idaho's full-time wage and salary workers in 2000, women's earnings were 74.4 percent of men's, as shown in FYI Table 1 (see p. 23). Median weekly earnings were \$426 for women and \$573 for men. Using these figures to compute the gender wage gap, Idaho ranked 26th. If we assume for the sake of comparison that these people worked 40 hours per week, the median hourly wage was \$10.65 per hour for women and \$14.33 per hour for men. Though the situation for working women in Idaho looks more promising using this measure, their wages and salaries still lag behind those of men. Some insight may be gained by examining two choices that significantly affect a person's earnings—education and occupation.

Education and income are closely linked—generally, the more education a person has, the higher the income. In 1999, the average earnings of full-time female workers with a high school diploma or the equivalent were \$23,498 in the United States, compared to \$44,669 for women with bachelor's or higher degrees. Men with a high school education earned an average of \$35,121 per year, while those with bachelor's or higher degrees earned an average of \$72,884. Today's highest-paying occupations are likely to require a college education, which explains much of the earnings difference between high school and college graduates.

At 19.1 percent, Idaho ranked 41st in the number of women 25 years or older with a bachelor's or higher degree, as shown in FYI Table 2 (see p. 24). For men, Idaho ranked 38th in the bachelor's or higher degree category at 23.2 percent. Though an equal percentage of Idaho's men and women have a high school education, the women fall behind when it comes to obtaining a bachelor's degree or above. Of Idaho's women, 35.8 percent have attended college without obtaining a bachelor's degree, compared to 31.4 percent of men. Fewer women than men in Idaho are completing the education necessary for the highest-paying jobs, diminishing their earning potential.

The choice of occupation is closely related to a person's level of education. The occupations paying the highest wages in Idaho in 1999/2000 included legal, medical, and computer professionals, engineers, scientists, chief executives, and sales agents in securities, commodities, and financial services. These positions typi-

cally require a higher level of education, and in most of these fields women are in the minority.

In 1999, the largest percentage of women in Idaho were employed in administrative support, 23.7 percent, and service occupations, 20.3 percent, as shown in FYI Table 3 (see p. 26). Wages in both of those occupational categories are relatively low. The largest percentage of men, however, were employed in the well-paying precision production, craft, and repair occupational category—20.9 percent compared to 2.0 percent of women. These numbers are comparable to national numbers available for 2000. In the U.S., 23.5 percent of women were employed in administrative support occupations, 17.5 percent in service occupations, and 2.2 percent in precision production, craft, and repair occupations.

FYI Table 4 (see p. 25) presents a slightly different view of the national 2000 occupational data, comparing the number of women to the total number of people employed in the occupation. Only 29.7 percent of lawyers and judges were women. Women comprised 85.7 percent of those people employed in the health assessment and treating occupational category, which includes nurses, pharmacists, dietitians, and therapists, and 89.5 percent of those in the health service occupational category, which includes dental assistants and aids. Only 27.1 percent of those in the health diagnosing occupational category, which includes physicians, were women. In the category of mathematical and computer scientists, women held 31.4 percent of the positions, though just 9.9 percent of engineers were women. And while women comprised nearly half of finance and business services sales representatives—44.5 percent—only 27.5 percent of those selling commodities were women. With men holding most of the high-paying jobs, it is not surprising that the median wage for men is higher than that of women.

What about when men and women have made the same choices? Do women working alongside men, doing the same jobs with the same education levels, earn the same amount as their male counterparts? Nearly everyone has heard anecdotal information about wage discrimination based on gender. Women with the same education as male coworkers, working the same hours in the same occupations, are still likely to receive lower wages than the men. FYI Table 5 (see p. 26) lists women's earnings by occupation as a percentage of men's for the U.S. in 2000. These percentages range from a low of 59.6 percent in sales occupations to a high of 88.2 percent in service occupations, excluding private household and protective positions. This table indicates that while women fare comparatively better in some occupational fields, their median wage never equals that of men. This is true even though it would be expected that the men and women in each field would have a

similar range of education and experience levels.

In the major occupational categories, the three areas where the wage gap is smallest are: farming, forestry, and fishing; service occupations; and operators, fabricators, and laborers. These are also the three lowest-paying occupational categories. Lower pay overall means less room for variation between men's and women's wages. The highest-paying occupations—managerial and professional specialties—have the third widest gap between men's and women's wages. An examination of the subcategories of this occupational group reveals that women fare significantly better compared to men in professional specialties than in executive, administrative, and managerial occupations. Those women "at the top" are still paid far less than their male counterparts.

Despite the push to receive equal pay for equal work, the gap between men's and women's wages still persists across every occupational category. The gap is decreasing, though. In 1960, women's wages were only 60.7 percent of men's, in 2000 they had improved to 74.4 percent. If that same rate of improvement were projected into the future, women would earn 101.8 percent of men's wages by 2080. The trend narrowing the wage gap slowed in recent years, however, decreasing by only 2.8 percent from 1990 to 2000, compared to an 11.4 percent decrease from 1980 to 1990. Many factors can affect this trend—economic conditions, societal attitudes, and legislation included. While wage information shows that the gap between men's and women's earnings is not as wide as that depicted by Census numbers, the differences are significant.

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FYI TABLE 1: MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS FOR FULL-TIME WORKERS - 2000

Rank	State	Median Weekly Earnings for Men	Median Weekly Earnings for Women	Women's Earnings as Percentage of Men's
1	Maryland	703	589	83.8
2	Vermont	589	493	83.7
3	Arizona	580	484	83.4
4	California	671	551	82.1
5	Georgia	573	461	80.5
6	Massachusetts	714	566	79.3
7	Hawaii	624	495	79.2
8	Nevada	581	457	78.6
9	Delaware	657	513	78.1
10	North Carolina	583	452	77.4
11	Iowa	618	478	77.3
12	New York	674	519	77.1
13	New Jersey	753	579	77.0
14	Texas	587	452	77.0
15	Rhode Island	685	526	76.7
16	Florida	578	443	76.6
17	Arkansas	501	383	76.5
18	Connecticut	773	590	76.3
19	Maine	586	442	75.4
20	Wisconsin	654	493	75.4
21	Kentucky	599	450	75.1
22	Tennessee	596	447	75.1
23	Minnesota	754	562	74.6
24	Illinois	699	521	74.5
25	New Mexico	573	427	74.5
26	Idaho	573	426	74.4
27	Colorado	733	542	74.0
28	Missouri	658	484	73.6
29	Oregon	649	476	73.4
30	South Carolina	623	457	73.4
31	Kansas	625	456	72.9
32	Alaska	798	579	72.6
33	Pennsylvania	671	487	72.6
34	Montana	546	395	72.3
35	Ohio	685	494	72.2
36	Virginia	720	519	72.1
37	Michigan	711	512	72.0
38	North Dakota	556	400	72.0
39	Alabama	582	416	71.5
40	New Hampshire	717	513	71.5
41	Oklahoma	583	412	70.8
42	Washington	723	512	70.8
43	Mississippi	550	389	70.7
44	Nebraska	596	420	70.4
45	Louisiana	586	412	70.3
46	South Dakota	589	414	70.3
47	West Virginia	583	410	70.3
48	Indiana	661	464	70.2
49	Utah	673	456	67.8
50	Wyoming	601	402	66.8
	UNITED STATES	646	491	76.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Highlights of Women's Earnings in 2000

This chart represents the median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 16 years and over, based on annual averages for the year 2000. The percentages are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed

FYI TABLE 2: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT - 2000

Rank	Men				Women			
	State	HS Diploma or Equivalent Only	State	Bachelor's Degree or Higher	State	HS Diploma or Equivalent Only	State	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
1	West Virginia	39.85%	Massachusetts	37.56%	West Virginia	39.90%	Massachusetts	32.47%
2	Iowa	37.73%	Connecticut	36.08%	Ohio	39.40%	Connecticut	30.92%
3	Ohio	37.51%	Colorado	35.91%	Pennsylvania	39.34%	Colorado	30.86%
4	Pennsylvania	37.01%	New Jersey	33.50%	Indiana	38.71%	Maryland	29.86%
5	Vermont	35.37%	Maryland	33.45%	Iowa	36.85%	New Jersey	29.05%
6	Indiana	35.25%	Virginia	32.44%	Arkansas	36.25%	New Hampshire	28.60%
7	Maine	34.88%	Washington	31.88%	Maine	35.90%	Virginia	28.28%
8	Wisconsin	34.36%	New Hampshire	31.43%	Louisiana	35.78%	Vermont	27.76%
9	Kentucky	34.35%	Utah	31.11%	Wisconsin	35.58%	Hawaii	27.53%
10	Arkansas	33.79%	New York	29.78%	Delaware	35.56%	Washington	27.30%
11	South Dakota	33.41%	California	29.73%	Kentucky	34.89%	New York	26.80%
12	Delaware	32.90%	Minnesota	29.36%	Vermont	34.83%	Minnesota	26.68%
13	Louisiana	32.71%	Illinois	29.11%	Michigan	33.66%	Alaska	25.74%
14	Missouri	31.59%	Vermont	28.96%	Nevada	33.56%	Kansas	25.62%
15	Idaho	31.51%	Kansas	28.22%	Nebraska	33.05%	California	25.35%
16	Tennessee	31.07%	Montana	28.11%	Tennessee	32.92%	Illinois	25.12%
17	Minnesota	30.93%	Oregon	27.76%	Missouri	32.69%	Wyoming	23.93%
18	Wyoming	30.92%	Delaware	27.73%	Florida	31.98%	Delaware	23.68%
19	Kansas	30.77%	Hawaii	27.52%	South Dakota	31.94%	Nebraska	23.63%
20	Montana	30.49%	Rhode Island	27.45%	New Jersey	31.84%	Rhode Island	23.62%
21	Michigan	30.45%	Nebraska	26.66%	Idaho	31.53%	South Dakota	23.60%
22	Oklahoma	30.31%	Alaska	26.28%	Oklahoma	31.53%	Oregon	23.48%
23	Hawaii	30.26%	New Mexico	26.10%	Kansas	31.35%	Montana	23.11%
24	Nebraska	30.09%	Texas	25.95%	South Carolina	31.33%	New Mexico	23.02%
25	New Hampshire	30.08%	Florida	25.85%	Minnesota	30.83%	Utah	22.61%
26	Nevada	29.87%	Arizona	25.22%	Wyoming	30.43%	North Dakota	22.57%
27	Alabama	29.68%	Georgia	25.20%	Montana	30.43%	Wisconsin	22.12%
28	North Carolina	29.41%	Pennsylvania	25.14%	Georgia	30.41%	Georgia	21.82%
29	Florida	28.75%	Michigan	24.94%	Illinois	30.25%	Maine	21.70%
30	Illinois	28.61%	South Carolina	24.86%	North Carolina	29.77%	Missouri	21.54%
31	Georgia	28.51%	Missouri	24.36%	North Dakota	29.68%	Michigan	21.35%
32	South Carolina	28.50%	Wyoming	24.06%	New York	29.66%	Texas	21.31%
33	Mississippi	28.44%	Maine	24.01%	Connecticut	29.57%	Pennsylvania	21.20%
34	New Jersey	28.31%	North Dakota	23.76%	New Hampshire	29.41%	North Carolina	21.14%
35	North Dakota	27.90%	South Dakota	23.58%	Rhode Island	29.37%	South Carolina	21.09%
36	New York	27.76%	Iowa	23.51%	Mississippi	29.10%	Iowa	21.07%
37	Rhode Island	27.67%	Wisconsin	23.37%	Alabama	29.00%	Florida	20.72%
38	Connecticut	27.28%	Idaho	23.23%	Hawaii	28.97%	Arizona	19.87%
39	Massachusetts	27.25%	North Carolina	23.00%	Maryland	28.64%	Tennessee	19.63%
40	Maryland	26.65%	Ohio	22.74%	Oregon	28.39%	Alabama	19.42%
41	New Mexico	26.01%	Tennessee	22.35%	Virginia	28.08%	Idaho	19.12%
42	Oregon	25.94%	Oklahoma	21.95%	Utah	28.01%	Ohio	18.81%
43	Alaska	25.33%	Indiana	21.78%	Arizona	27.75%	Oklahoma	18.71%
44	Arizona	25.31%	Alabama	21.15%	Massachusetts	27.65%	Louisiana	18.43%
45	Virginia	25.28%	Louisiana	20.71%	New Mexico	27.64%	Indiana	18.22%
46	Texas	25.01%	Nevada	20.26%	Texas	27.44%	Mississippi	17.68%
47	Washington	24.66%	Mississippi	19.74%	Alaska	26.26%	Kentucky	16.49%
48	Colorado	22.08%	Arkansas	18.58%	Colorado	26.23%	Nevada	16.27%
49	Utah	21.95%	Kentucky	18.09%	Washington	26.22%	Arkansas	14.89%
50	California	19.42%	West Virginia	14.77%	California	21.63%	West Virginia	13.53%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey

FYI TABLE 4: EMPLOYED WOMEN IN THE U.S. BY OCCUPATION - 2000

(Numbers in thousands)

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
Managerial and professional specialty	40,887	20,345	49.8%
Executive, administrative, and managerial	19,774	8,960	45.3%
Officials and administrators, public administration	753	373	49.5%
Other executive, administrative, and managerial	14,089	5,797	41.1%
Management-related occupations	4,932	2,789	56.5%
Professional Specialty	21,113	11,384	53.9%
Engineers	2,093	207	9.9%
Mathematical and computer scientists	2,074	652	31.4%
Natural scientists	566	190	33.6%
Health diagnosing occupations	1,038	281	27.1%
Health assessment and treating occupations	2,966	2,541	85.7%
Teachers, college and university	961	420	43.7%
Teachers, except college and university	5,353	4,036	75.4%
Lawyers and judges	926	275	29.7%
Other professional specialty occupations	5,134	2,782	54.2%
Technical, sales, and administrative support	39,442	25,154	63.8%
Technicians and related support	4,385	2,267	51.7%
Health technologists and technicians	1,724	1,388	80.5%
Engineering and science technicians	1,272	316	24.8%
Technicians, except health, engineering, and science	1,389	562	40.5%
Sales occupations	16,340	8,110	49.6%
Supervisors and proprietors	4,937	1,989	40.3%
Sales representatives, finance and business services	2,934	1,306	44.5%
Sales representatives, commodities, except retail	1,581	435	27.5%
Sales workers, retail and personal services	6,782	4,306	63.5%
Sales-related occupations	107	74	69.2%
Administrative support, including clerical	18,717	14,778	79.0%
Supervisors	710	428	60.3%
Computer equipment operators	323	157	48.6%
Secretaries, stenographers, and typists	3,328	3,262	98.0%
Financial records processing	2,269	2,083	91.8%
Mail and message distributing	978	403	41.2%
Other administrative support, including clerical	11,108	8,445	76.0%
Service occupations	18,278	11,034	60.4%
Private household	792	757	95.6%
Protective service	2,399	455	19.0%
Service, except private household and protective	15,087	9,822	65.1%
Food service	6,327	3,651	57.7%
Health service	2,557	2,288	89.5%
Cleaning and building service	3,127	1,407	45.0%
Personal service	3,077	2,476	80.5%
Precision production, craft, and repair	14,882	1,351	9.1%
Mechanics and repairers	4,875	250	5.1%
Construction trades	6,120	160	2.6%
Other precision production, craft, and repair	3,887	941	24.2%
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	18,319	4,331	23.6%
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	7,319	2,697	36.8%
Transportation and material moving occupations	5,557	554	10.0%
Motor vehicle operators	4,222	486	11.5%
Other transportation and material moving occupations	1,335	68	5.1%
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	5,443	1,080	19.8%
Construction laborers	1,015	38	3.7%
Other handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4,428	1,042	23.5%
Farming, forestry, and fishing	3,399	701	20.6%
Farm operators and managers	1,125	286	25.4%
Other farming, forestry, and fishing occupations	2,274	415	18.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment & Earnings, January 2001

FYI TABLE 3: DISTRIBUTION BY OCCUPATION IN IDAHO - 1999

Occupation Category	Men	Women
Managerial and professional specialty		
Executive, administrative, and managerial	11.5%	12.3%
Professional specialty	11.8%	13.8%
Technical, sales, and administrative support		
Technicians and related support	3.4%	3.7%
Sales	10.0%	13.3%
Administrative support, including clerical	4.1%	23.7%
Service occupations	7.6%	20.3%
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.9%	2.0%
Operators, fabricators, and laborers		
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	7.0%	4.0%
Transportation and material moving	8.9%	1.3%
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	5.8%	2.5%
Farming, forestry, and fishing	8.9%	3.1%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile

FYI TABLE 5: MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS FOR WOMEN BY OCCUPATION - 2000

Occupation	Median Weekly Earnings for Men	Median Weekly Earnings for Women	Women's Earnings as Percentage of Men's
Managerial and professional specialty	994	709	71.3%
Executive, administrative, and managerial	1,014	686	67.7%
Professional specialty	977	725	74.2%
Technical, sales, and administrative support	655	452	69.0%
Technicians and related support	761	541	71.1%
Sales	684	407	59.5%
Administrative support, including clerical	563	449	79.8%
Service occupations	414	316	76.3%
Private Household	(1)	261	
Protective Service	659	500	75.9%
Service, except private household and protective	357	314	88.0%
Precision production, craft, and repair	628	445	70.9%
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	487	351	72.1%
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	495	355	71.7%
Transportation and material moving	558	407	72.9%
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	394	320	81.2%
Farming, forestry, and fishing	347	294	84.7%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Highlights of Women's Earnings in 2000

(1) Data not shown where base is less than 50,000.

This chart represents the median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 16 years and over, based on annual averages for the year 2000. The percentages are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms

Agriculture Employment: Persons on agriculture payrolls who work or receive pay for any period during the survey week. This includes owners, operators, unpaid family members who work at least 15 hours a week, and hired laborers.

Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Hours: The average total money earnings earned by production or non-supervisory workers for selected industries. The average number of hours worked by production or non-supervisory workers including overtime, paid vacation, and sick leave. The data is collected for the week including the 12th of the month.

Average Weekly Earnings: Average Hourly Earnings multiplied by Average Weekly Hours.

Civilian Labor Force: A count of non-institutional persons 16 years of age and over residing within a specific geographic area, excluding members of armed forces, who are classified as employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): A national index measuring changes over time in the price of a fixed market basket of goods and services. There are two indexes—the All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) represents the buying habits of about 80 percent of the non-institutional population of the United States, and the Urban Wage & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) represents 40 percent of the population.

Covered Employers: Employers who are subject to state and federal Unemployment Insurance laws.

Durable Goods: Also known as “hard goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

Employed: Individuals, 16 years of age or older, who worked at least 1 hour for pay or profit or worked at least 15 unpaid hours in a family business during the week including the 12th day of the month. Individuals are also counted as employed if they had a job but did not work because they were: ill, on vacation, in a labor dispute, prevented from working because of bad weather, or temporarily absent for similar reasons.

Initial Claim: Any notice of unemployment filed to request (1) a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

Labor Market Area (LMA): An area that consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance. It is an economically integrated geographic area within which individuals can reside and find employment without changing place of residence. Idaho has nine LMAs.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): An area that has either a city with a population of at least 50,000 or a Bureau of Census urbanized area of at least 50,000 and a total metropolitan area of at least 100,000. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MSAs. There are two MSAs in Idaho—Boise City (including Ada and Canyon counties) and Pocatello City (including Bannock County).

Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment: Persons on nonfarm establishment payrolls (including employees on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation) who work or receive pay for any part of the week including the 12th of the month. It is a count of jobs by place of work. It does not include self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, domestic workers in households, military personnel and persons who are laid off, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire reference period.

Nondurable Goods: Also known as “soft goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less).

Seasonally Adjusted: Data is seasonally adjusted to remove the impact of regular events that occur at the same time every year such as the effect of cold weather on outdoor activities, the Christmas holiday, or the summer influx of youth into the labor market.

Unemployed: Those individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12th of the month. The only exceptions to these criteria are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these, too, are considered unemployed.

Unemployment Insurance: Unemployment Insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for the payment of Unemployment Insurance to workers during periods of unemployment which are beyond their control.

Unemployment Rate: The number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labor force.

Weekly Benefit Amount: The amount payable to a claimant for a compensable week of total unemployment.

Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks that unemployed workers claimed Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Weeks Compensated: The number of weeks for which compensation was actually paid.

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